

ALLOWANCE

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art for the features of the claimed invention are Karmarkar (US Patent 7,285,048), Veradej (US Patent Application Publication 2003/0092489), Steelberg et al. (US Patent Application Publication 2003/0139190; hereinafter Steelberg), Bradford et al. (US Patent 6,709,333; hereinafter Bradford), Kerr (US Patent Application Publication 2002/0142844), Labrou et al. (US Patent 7,606,560; hereinafter Labrou), Saunders et al. (US Patent 7,690,043; hereinafter Saunders), Iida et al. (US Patent 6,766,946; hereinafter Iida).

However, Karmarkar alone or in combination with Veradej, Steelberg, Bradford, Kerr, Labrou, Saunders, and Iida does not disclose a remote gaming system/remote gaming terminal player verification system and method of operating the system including a first communication device, at least one server/computer server operated by a gaming operator, a remote gaming terminal, a verification device/second communication device that is independent from the remote gaming terminal and used in the same location as the remote gaming terminal, a logic device, player authentication system operated by a third party, **wherein** the third party is a separate entity from the gaming operator and the at least one server/computer server is in a different location than the authentication system, **and wherein** when the logic device determines that player verification is necessary, the at least one server/computer server receives

Art Unit: 3714

personal information, which is at least two of at least one visual image, a current geographic location and at least one voice sample of a specific player, that is transmitted from the verification device/second communication device after being obtained at the remote gaming terminal during or immediately prior to wagering game play by the verification device/second communication device, **and wherein** when the personal information for the specific player transmitted, using the at least one server/computer server, to the authentication system is verified by the authentication system, the at least one server/computer server causes the first communication device to permit at least one gaming event to either start or continue processing on the remote gaming terminal. Thus, the claimed invention is not anticipated by nor obvious over the closest prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ARTHUR O. HALL whose telephone number is (571)270-1814. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:00am - 5:00 pm, Alt Fri, EST.

Art Unit: 3714

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (571) 272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. O. H./
Examiner, Art Unit 3714